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**Abstract**

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A process is disclosed for determining the possible configurations of machining plants for controlling and/or planning the production of at least one product in a plurality of machining plants having each several machining modules. The process comprises the following steps: (a) a sequence of individual processing instructions is determined for each product and by means of these instructions a particular machining plant is selected and the processing steps to be carried out in the machining plants are defined; (b) possible configurations of the machining plant and the product machining time in the machining plant for each configuration are determined depending on the machining steps that need to be carried out; (c) information on the state of the machining modules in the machining plants is provided; (d) the configurations of the machining plant which are possible in the given state of the machining modules and the product machining time in the machining plant for each configuration are derived from the information on the state of the machining modules and the machining steps to be carried out.

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